Acknowledgements: The CST was developed at the Hearing Aid Research Laboratory of The University of Memphis with primary support from the Department of Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation Research and Development Service. Support was also provided by the Center for Research Initiatives and Strategies for the Communicatively Impaired (CRISCI), The University of Memphis.
INTRODUCTION

The Connected Speech Test (CST) provides objective quantification of the intelligibility of sets of sentences about different topics. The test was recorded with both auditory and visual stimuli. This DVD was produced from the original video laser disk. The video image shows a close-up view of the talker’s head and shoulders. As a measure of everyday speech, the CST has high content validity (conversationally produced connected speech), good sensitivity, and several equivalent forms. The user is strongly encouraged to consult the articles, cited at the end of this introduction, about the development and administration of the test and reliability of the data from normal-hearing and hearing-impaired listeners.

The DVD contents include:
- 3 calibration signals
- 8 Practice passages
- 16 Learning Passages
- 8 audio-visually equivalent sets of six passages each.

All passages are recorded with the talker on the right channel and a competing babble on the left channel. The talker is a female who produces speech of average intelligibility (Cox, Alexander, and Gilmore, JASA, 1987). The multi-talker babble can be adjusted to simulate the signal to babble ratio (SBR) conditions encountered in everyday listening situations.

Audio calibration signals

Three types of calibration signals are provided:
- the CST-shaped Noises are the calibration signals produced for the audio CD. These signals were not on the original laser disk. The calibration noises were created for the audio CD by filtering random noise so that the long-term level in each 1/3-octave band is essentially the same as that in the corresponding test materials. On the right channel, the calibration noise has the same 1/3-octave band spectrum and level as the talker (the RMS difference between talker and calibration noise in the 1/3-octave bands from 200 Hz to 10 kHz is 0.66 dB). On the left channel, the calibration noise has the same 1/3-octave band spectrum and level as the multi-talker babble (the RMS difference between babble and calibration noise in the 1/3-octave bands from 200 Hz to 10 kHz is 0.53 dB). Note that this relationship between test materials and calibration noise was computed over the entire corpus of test materials. For any individual sentence or passage, there will probably be differences between the spectrum of the calibration noise and that of the test materials. If the calibration noises are set so that the audimeter VU meter readings are -5 dB (left CD channel) and -4 dB (right CD channel), both the test passages and the babble will have peak meter excursions near 0 dB on the VU meter.
- The **Uncorrelated CST Babble** contains several minutes of CST babble on both channels. Material on the left channel is uncorrelated with that on the right channel. Excerpts from this may be used (using a second DVD and player) if it is desired to present uncorrelated babble from additional loudspeakers as a competing message. These signals are also available on the audio CD.

- The **Speech-shaped Noise** approximates the long-term spectrum of the talker and the competing babble. These noise signals were part of the original laser video disk. If the calibration noises are set to VU meter readings of -5 dB on both channels, both the speech passages and the babble will have peak readings near -3 dB on the VU meter. Note that, on the right channel, the long-term overall level of this calibration noise is one dB higher than the mean long-term overall level of the test passages. On the left channel the long-term overall level of this calibration noise is 3 dB lower than the mean long-term overall level of the competing babble associated with the test passages.

  *Note: Due to a programming error, the speech-shaped noise is not accessed when the built-in menu option for “speech-shaped noise” is selected. Instead, the CST-shaped noises are played. The speech-shaped noise is not available at this time.*

**Test passages:**

Though the 48 test passages are equally intelligible, on average, for normal-hearing listeners, they are not necessarily equivalent for hearing-impaired listeners. There is additional variation with the introduction of visual clues. Thus, the test passages have been arranged on this disk into 8 sets of 6 passages each. The 8 sets of passages are equivalent on average for hearing-impaired listener-viewers. Scores should be averaged across the 6 passages of a set to produce the score for a particular listening condition when the test is presented audio-visually.

Each passage of speech comprises 9 or 10 sentences about a familiar topic. The listener should be informed of the passage topic prior to presentation. The video presents the text topic word preceding the passage. It is recommended that the user pause the DVD while the topic word is showing so that the listener can take note of it. Following the topic word, the passage should be played one sentence at a time. The passage score is based on the proportion of 25 scoring words correctly repeated.

The Test Passages were recorded at a conversational rate, with natural timing between sentences. Manual presentation of this material requires that the user pause the DVD presentation after each sentence of a passage to allow the listener to repeat each sentence, and for the user to score the correct words. A complete script of all passages and their scoring words follows. This script can be printed or copied for use in manual scoring.

The 8 Practice Passages are similar in structure and content to the test passages but have slightly poorer reliability. When the practice passage is novel to the listener, the scores should be reasonably close to performance on the test passages. Practice Passages may be used to select an appropriate SBR for testing or to acclimate the listener to the task.
Note that there is a period of rapid learning when listeners are first exposed to the CST task and whenever the SBR is changed. Hence, it is advisable to administer Practice passages before test data are collected. Also, reliability is improved if one of the four Practice pairs is presented each time test conditions are changed.

The 16 Learning Passages are also similar in structure to the test and practice passages but with relatively poorer reliability. They are used primarily to familiarize the listener with the CST task and the characteristics of the talker. Scores on these passages are not necessarily predictive of the listener's performance on the test passages. Note that the final sentence of the last Learning Passage ("Kidney") was not recorded on the video laser disk due to space limitations and, therefore, does not appear on this DVD.

**Pointers for test administration:**

- Because of the learning effect, repeated presentation of a sentence is usually not advisable. A sentence can be replayed if something happens during the sentence presentation which would prevent the listener from hearing the sentence. Some common examples of this would be if the listener sneezes or coughs while the sentence plays, or the listener starts talking as the sentence plays.

- Reliability of the test is improved if a practice passage is administered each time the test conditions are changed. This would include changes in the SBR or presentation level; aided vs. unaided conditions; and changes in hearing aid settings.

- A listener tends to remember test sentences. To minimize memory effects, allow 2-3 months to elapse before administering a test passage a second time.

**Please refer to these articles for further and more detailed information about the CST and its development:**


# TEXT FOR CONNECTED SPEECH TEST PASSAGES

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Text for the CONNECTED SPEECH TEST
(scoring words are capitalized)

Test Passage Pair 1 (Window/Glove)

Psg: 1-WINDOW

Windows PROVIDE LIGHT and air to ROOMS.
Windows were ONCE COVERED with CRUDE SHUTTERS.
Later, oiled PAPER was USED for windowpanes.
GLASS windows FIRST appeared in ancient Rome.
COLORED glass was used in European WINDOWS.
SOME CHURCHES were FAMOUS for their BEAUTIFUL windows.
These windows DISPLAYED PICTURES from the BIBLE.
PIECES of glass were HELD together by lead.
SUCH windows MAY be seen in French cathedrals.
English churches also contain STAINED glass windows.

Psg: 2-GLOVE

Gloves are CLOTHING WORN ON the HANDS.
The WORD "GLOVE" MEANS "palm of the hand".
CRUDE GLOVES were WORN by PRIMITIVE MAN.
Greens wore WORKING gloves to PROTECT their hands.
The ROMANS USED gloves as a sign of RANK.
Knights used to fasten gloves to their helmets.
The gloves SHOWED their DEVOTION to their LADIES.
A glove thrown on the GROUND SIGNALED a challenge.
Knights threw them at their enemy’s feet.
FIGHTING STARTED WHEN the enemy picked up the glove.
Test Passage Pair 2 (Umbrella/Giraffe)

Psg: 3-UMBRELLA

The name "umbrella" means small shadow.
Umbrellas were first used in ancient Egypt.
They gave protection from the fierce sunshine.
Slaves held umbrellas over their masters.
In Egypt today, many people carry umbrellas.
In early Rome, only women used umbrellas.
If a man did, he was considered sissy.
Umbrellas were used by both sexes in England.
Today, people use umbrellas to keep out the rain.
Umbrellas used as sunshades are called parasols.

Psg: 4-GIRAFFE

The giraffe is the tallest wild animal.
It is three times taller than a man.
A full grown giraffe is eighteen feet high.
The giraffe has an extremely long neck.
The neck has only seven neckbones.
The giraffe's body is about the size of a horse's.
The body is shaped like a triangle.
Africa is the only country where giraffes live wild.
Large groups of them are found on the plains.
They live there with lions and elephants.
Test Passage Pair 3 (Lung/Dove)

Psg: 5-LUNG

The lungs are the ORGANS of breathing.
They LIE in the CENTER of the chest.
The heart lies BETWEEN the lungs.
The two lungs ARE SURROUNDED by the RIBS.
BOTH ARE JOINED together by the WINDPIPE.
This airway EXTENDS FROM the mouth and NOSE.
The lungs CONTAIN SEVERAL MILLION AIR cells.
BLOOD is pumped THROUGH the lungs by the HEART.
OXYGEN is carried to the CELLS THIS WAY.

Psg: 6-DOVE

A dove is a small, TRIM BIRD.
The BEST known is the MOURNING dove.
The mourning DOVE lives in NORTH America.
Its NAME COMES from its SAD MATING call.
It is sometimes INCORRECTLY CALLED TURTLEDOVE.
The mourning dove is about a FOOT LONG.
Its BODY is BROWN with GRAY wings.
It FEEDS on GRAINS, grasses and WEEDS.
The mourning dove is a CARELESS HOUSEKEEPER.
Its NEST is just some STICKS tossed together.
Test Passage Pair 4 (Carrot/Grass)

Psg: 7-CARROT

A carrot is a **VEGETABLE RELATED** to parsley.

The **LONG** stem of the carrot **GROWS UNDERGROUND**.

It is **THIS STEM** that most people **EAT**.

The **LEAVES** of the **CARROT** are also eaten.

They are often used to **FLAVOR** foods.

Spring **CROPS** are **GROWN** in the western **STATES**.

The crop is **HARVESTED** in one **HUNDRED** days.

Fall crops **ARE GROWN** in the **NORTHERN STATES**.

Winter **HARVESTS** usually come from **CALIFORNIA**.

**WINTER** crops are also **GROWN** in **TEXAS**.

Psg: 8-GRASS

Grass **CAN GROW** in all climates.

**THERE** are many forms of grasses.

**MANY GRASSES** are important food **SOURCES**.

Some grasses **GROW** higher than a **MAN'S HEAD**.

**AMONG THESE** are bamboo and sugar cane.

Other types are **ONLY** a **FEW INCHES TALL**.

Some grasses **ARE AS SLENDER** as threads.

Others are stiff enough to **STAND** a heavy **SNOW**.

**MOST** grasses are **FLOWERING PLANTS**.

These flowers bloom **MAINLY** in the **SPRING**.
Test Passage Pair 5 (Nail/Woodpecker)

Psg: 9-NAIL

Nails are used to **FASTEN WOOD TOGETHER**. Pioneers **USED WOODEN** pegs **INSTEAD** of nails. One **END** of a nail is quite **POINTED**. The **POINT** creates an **OPENING** for the **NAIL**. It also helps **KEEP** the **WOOD** from **SPLITTING**. At the nail's **OTHER** end is a **HEAD**. It provides a **STRIKING SURFACE** for the hammer. It also **COVERS** the nail **HOLE** in the wood. There is a **SPECIAL NAIL** for every **PURPOSE**. For **MOST** purposes a **ROUND** nail will do.

Psg: 10-WOODPECKER

The woodpecker is a bird with a **STRONG BEAK**. It bores **HOLES** in **TREES** looking for **INSECTS**. Woodpeckers **LIVE** in all parts of the world. The **TOES** of woodpeckers **ARE VERY UNUSUAL**. Two **POINT FORWARD** and two face **BACKWARD**. This allows the **BIRD** to cling to **TREES**. The **TAIL FEATHERS** of a woodpecker are **STIFF**. **THEY** can **USE** their tails as a **SUPPORT**. They also use their tails to grasp **TREES**. Woodpeckers **HAVE** long **TONGUES** with pointed **TIPS**.
**Test Passage Pair 6 (Owl/Vegetable)**

Psg: 11-OWL

Owls **HUNT** alone at **NIGHT** for food.

**THESE BIRDS** kill and **EAT** small **ANIMALS**.

They are **BIRDS** of prey, like **EAGLES**.

**OWLS** defend our **GARDENS** by eating **MICE**.

They are **CLOSELY** related to night **HAWKS**.

There are five **HUNDRED** different **KINDS** of owls.

They live throughout **COLD** and **TROPICAL** climates.

Owls **USUALLY** live **ALONE** in the **FOREST**.

**SOMETIMES** they exist on remote **SEA** islands.

Owls are **KNOWN FOR** their **SOLEMN** expression.

---

Psg: 12-VEGETABLE

The **WORD** "vegetable" **HAS** several **MEANINGS**.

It is **USED** in the phrase "vegetable **KINGDOM**".

This **REFERS** to the entire plant **WORLD**.

**SOME WILD** vegetables can be eaten.

Vegetables **COME** from the **LEAVES** and **FLOWERS** of plants.

Some vegetables come **FROM** a plant's **ROOTS**.

Vegetables can be **EATEN** raw or **COOKED**.

The **BEST** way to **COOK** vegetables is by **STEAMING**.

**THEY** are **USUALLY** chopped or **MASHED** before eaten.

Vegetables are **VERY DIFFERENT FROM** fruits.
Test Passage Pair 7 (Lemon/Violin)

Psg: 13-LEMON

A LEMON is an oval, yellow citrus FRUIT.
It GROWS in Southern California and FLORIDA.
Lemon trees are MEDIUM sized, WITH SPREADING BRANCHES.
They have PALE GREEN LEAVES and large flowers.
The flowers are WHITE, with PURPLE UNDERNEATH.
The lemon FLOWER smells sweet.
SOME types of lemons have NO seeds.
OTHER types have MANY seeds.
Their FRUIT is a SPECIAL TYPE of CITRUS.
It usually has a SOUR TASTE.

Psg: 14-VIOLIN

The violin is the best KNOWN stringed INSTRUMENT.
EARLY VIOLINS did not produce clear tones.
These violins were VERY ROUGH SOUNDED.
LATER violin MAKERS improved their craft.
Their VIOLINS were EXTREMELY well made.
The VIOLIN BECAME an INSTRUMENT for beautiful MUSIC.
Only SMALL CHANGES have occurred in violin DESIGN.
Violins must be MADE with GREAT care.
The WOOD USED greatly influences the tone.
The parts MUST be glued TOGETHER by HAND.
Test Passage Pair 8 (Wheat/Ice)

Psg: 15-WHEAT

Wheat is a **CHIEF SOURCE** of food.

**MILLIONS** of **PEOPLE** **DEPEND** on wheat **PRODUCTS**.

It is the most **WIDELY** used human **FOOD**.

Americans **PRIZE** wheat **MORE HIGHLY** than **OTHER** grains.

Wheat is **GROWN** on the **PLAINS** of the United States.

More wheat is **PRODUCED** there than **RICE**.

However, rice is **CHEAPER** to **PRODUCE**.

It **CAN** be **PLANTED** and **HARVESTED** by **HAND**.

Rice is **IMPORTANT** to **OVERPOPULATED** countries.

It is their **PRIMARY** source of nutrition.

Psg: 16-ICE

Ice forms when **WATER REACHES** the freezing **POINT**.

This point **OCCURS** at thirty-two degrees.

Lower **TEMPERATURES** are needed to freeze impure **WATER**.

**SNOWFLAKES** and **FROST** are forms of **ICE**.

Large bodies of water **FREEZE** very **SLOWLY**.

**MOVING** water takes **EVEN LONGER** to freeze.

It **TAKES DAYS** for ice to form on a **LAKE**.

It **TAKES** weeks for **RIVERS** to freeze.

Ice can also **FORM** on **ROADS** and **SIDEWALKS**.

This **CAN** make **TRAVELING** very **DANGEROUS**.
Test Passage Pair 9 (Donkey/Guitar)

Psg: 17-DONKEY

Donkeys are SMALLER, sturdier relatives of HORSES.
The WILD donkey is SHAPED like a ZEBRA.
It is four FEET high at the SHOULDERS.
The donkey's COAT is GRAY and black.
It HAS a DARK LINE along its BACK.
This ANIMAL is EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT.
SURPRISINGLY, it is also a SWIFT RUNNER.
Man has TAMED donkeys for his personal use.
Donkeys are OFTEN used as BEASTS of burden.
All donkeys are NOTED for their HUGE EARS.

Psg: 18-GUITAR

The guitar is a stringed MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.
Guitars are used to ACCOMPANY SINGING.
They are played in GROUPS with other INSTRUMENTS.
A POPULAR style of guitar HAS a flat top.
It is made of wood and HAS six STRINGS.
You TUNE a guitar BY comparing OCTAVE NOTES.
The FINGERBOARD is HELD with the LEFT hand.
The MUSICIAN'S right hand PULLS the strings.
He plays BASS NOTES with his RIGHT thumb.
OTHER notes are PLAYED with the first THREE fingers.
Test Passage Pair 10 (Envelope/Grasshopper)

Psg: 19-ENVELOPE

An ENVELOPE is a POUCH CONTAINING a letter.
The ADDRESS is WRITTEN on the outside.
Envelopes MAY be used to PROTECT IMPORTANT documents.
EACH envelope is a FOLDED sheet of PAPER.
One flap is COVERED with GLUE.
The ENVELOPE is GLUED shut before mailing.
Self sealing envelopes use a SPECIAL GUM.
THEY NEED not be MOISTENED to stick shut.
Envelopes were FIRST MADE in eighteen THIRTY nine.
BEFORE that time, LETTERS were simply folded.

Psg: 20-GRASSHOPPER

“GRASSHOPPER” refers to TWO types of BUGS.
They HAVE long, THIN back legs.
Grasshoppers leap THROUGH fields and meadows.
They can JUMP many times their own LENGTH.
A man could never jump THAT FAR.
Grasshoppers include all the INSECTS CALLED locusts.
The DIFFERENCE BETWEEN the TWO is THEIR feelers.
Locusts HAVE much shorter FEELERS than GRASSHOPPERS.
Grasshoppers are MORE GREEN in COLOR than LOCUSTS.
Locusts ARE USUALLY brown colored.
**Test Passage Pair 11 (Lettuce/Dictionary)**

**Psg: 21-LETTUCE**

Lettuce is a **GREEN VEGETABLE** with **CRISP** leaves.
It is used to **MAKE** healthy **SALADS**.
It **GROWS** in the northern **HALF** of the **WORLD**.
There are **LOOSE** leaf and **HEAD** lettuces.
Loose **LEAF** lettuce is **POPULAR** in home gardens.
This **VARIETY** is found **MORE** often in **EUROPE**.
Its **LEAVES CURL LOOSELY** inside one another.
Most lettuce **GROWN** in America is **HEAD** lettuce.
Its **LEAVES FOLD** tightly **OVER** one another.
The leaves form a **BALL CALLED** a head.

**Psg: 22-DICTIONARY**

A dictionary **LISTS** the meanings of words.
**IT LETS** a **PERSON DEFINE** a word quickly.
A dictionary **CONTAINS** over six **HUNDRED** thousand words.
**MOST** educated **ADULTS** know **ABOUT TEN** thousand words.
A **FIFTH** grade child **KNOWS** two **THOUSAND** words.
Adults and children **NEED** to use dictionaries.
**DICTIONARIES TELL** us many **USEFUL** things about words.
Every **DICTIONARY SHOWS** the **CORRECT** spelling of a **WORD**.
It also **SHOWS** how a word is **PRONOUNCED**.
**CREATIVE** writing would be difficult without dictionaries.
Test Passage Pair 12 (Lawn/Cactus)

Psg: 23-LAWN

A lawn is an AREA planted WITH grass.
GREEN, trimmed lawns are a beautiful SIGHT.
People LIKE to plant lawns around their HOMES.
Hospitals OFTEN HAVE lawns AROUND them.
MOST public BUILDINGS have LAWNS.
Lawns HELP to keep SOIL from eroding.
A GOOD lawn is VERY thickly PLANTED.
There are FOUR hundred plants PER square FOOT.
EACH plant has several BLADES of grass.
There are several DIFFERENT KINDS of GRASSES.

Psg: 24-CACTUS

The cactus is a plant with SHARP thorns.
Five HUNDRED DIFFERENT kinds grow in MEXICO.
NEARLY all cactus PLANTS LIVE in America.
Cactus LIVE best WHERE there is little RAINFALL.
MOST CACTUS is found in the DESERT southwest.
PLANTS usually make food in their LEAVES.
The cactus does NOT have any LEAVES.
They HAVE DISAPPEARED so the cactus can stay moist.
The cactus stores the WATER IN its STEM.
DESSERT cactus FLOWERS BLOOM in the spring.
Test Passage Pair 13 (Cabbage/Gold)

Psg: 25-CABBAGE

Cabbage is the **MOST COMMON** garden **VEGETABLE**.

It has **THICK LEAVES** which curl inward.

They form a **ROUND HEAD** eight inches **ACROSS**.

The **WORD** cabbage is Latin for "**HEAD**".

The **CABBAGE** plant can live through **SEVERAL FREEZES**.

It also **GROWS** in the heat of **SUMMER**.

**EARLY SPRING** cabbage is **PLANTED** in greenhouses.

This protects the **YOUNG PLANTS FROM FROST**.

**AFTER** six **WEEKS** they may be moved outdoors.

**TRANSPLANTING** is done before the end of spring.

Psg: 26-GOLD

Gold was one of the first known **METALS**.

For **MANY YEARS** gold has **SYMBOLIZED WEALTH**.

**EVEN** the early cave man knew **ABOUT** gold.

**ANCIENT EGYPTIANS** hammered gold into **LEAVES**.

They used these leaves to **DECORATE** their **TOMBS**.

A **SCIENCE** grew up around efforts to make gold.

It **STARTED DURING** the **MIDDLE** ages.

The ancient scientists **NEVER ACHIEVED** their **GOAL**.

Modern **SCIENTISTS** have made these **DREAMS** come **TRUE**.

**THEY** now **MAKE** gold by a **CHEMICAL** process.
Test Passage Pair 14 (Weed/Chimney)

Psg: 27-WEED

Weeds are considered WORTHLESS PLANTS.
The DIFFERENCE BETWEEN weeds and useful PLANTS is unclear.
WHERE a WEED GROWS determines its usefulness.
OATS GROWING in a CORNFIELD are considered weeds.
Oats growing in an OATFIELD are useful PLANTS.
Much crop damage is CAUSED BY weeds.
Experts estimate it at FIVE dollars per person.
FARMERS SPEND THOUSANDS of DOLLARS for WEED sprays.
Chemicals used to KILL weeds can be harmful.
These chemicals are SOMETIMES found in DRINKING WATER.

Psg: 28-CHIMNEY

A chimney CARRIES SMOKE from a FIREPLACE.
It ALSO SUPPLIES the fire with OXYGEN.
Warm air is LIGHTER than COLD air.
Warm air ABOVE the fire TENDS to rise.
As the WARM air RISES, cold air rushes in.
A draft is CREATED in the CHIMNEY.
The draft PROVIDES the oxygen NEEDED for the FIRE.
Chimneys must STAND HIGHER than the BUILDING.
Otherwise, the chimney WILL not DRAW PROPERLY.
CHIMNEYS can IMPROVE the appearance of a home.
Test Passage Pair 15 (Lead/Calendar)

Psg: 29-LEAD

Lead is a **SOFT, HEAVY**, metallic element.

It is **OFTEN** combined with other **METALS**.

**MANY USEFUL OBJECTS** contain some lead **MIXTURE**.

The Romans **USED LEAD** for **WATER PIPES**.

Their **PUBLIC** baths were lined **WITH** lead.

The **WORD** "plumber" means a **WORKER** in lead.

Lead is **ONE** of the **HEAVIEST KNOWN** metals.

It is **ELEVEN** times as **HEAVY** as **WATER**.

The **EXPRESSION** "as HEAVY as lead" is common.

It **DESCRIBES** an object of great weight.

Psg: 30-CALENDAR

A calendar is a **SYSTEM** for **RECORDING TIME**.

All **CALENDARS INCLUDE** the day and the **YEAR**.

**THESE** are two **NATURAL DIVISIONS** of time.

Both are based **ON** the **EARTH** and the **SUN**.

The **MONTH** depends on the **APPEARANCE** of the **MOON**.

The week is an **ARTIFICIAL** division of **TIME**.

**WEEKS** are not **BASED** on observable **EVENTS**.

The calendar was a **GREAT HUMAN** achievement.

**THROUGH** it, men learned to measure **TIME**.
Test Passage Pair 16 (Lion/Zebra)

Psg: 31-LION

The lion is a WILD MEMBER of the cat FAMILY. IT is related to the tiger and the BOBCAT. The lion and TIGER are the largest CATS. The TIGER is the FIERCEST of all. The lion is a strong, WILD CREATURE. It HAS a large, HEAVY and powerful BODY. ITS long MANE gives it a proud appearance. The lion is KNOWN as the "KING of BEASTS". Lions are also CALLED "LORDS of the Jungle". HOWEVER, they are SELDOM FOUND in the JUNGLE.

Psg: 32-ZEBRA

A zebra is an animal that LIVES in Africa. It is a wild, GRASS eating ANIMAL. It LOOKS VERY much like a HORSE. MOST zebras STAND four to five FEET high. The zebra has a SURPRISINGLY different COLOR pattern. Zebras HAVE PARALLEL black and WHITE STRIPES. The stripes are arranged in EXACT DESIGNS. These stripes RUN all OVER their BODIES. They even run UP and DOWN THEIR faces. The stripes ALSO appear on the zebra's EARS.
Test Passage Pair 17 (Lizard/Wolf)

Psg: 33-LIZARD

The LIZARDS ARE the CLOSEST RELATIVES of SNAKES.

SOME lizards look LIKE snakes with LEGS.

Some LARGE ones look like CROCODILES.

They come in a VARIETY of SHAPES and COLORS.

Lizards have MANY WAYS of moving and fighting.

LIZARDS and SALAMANDERS are often CONFUSED.

They LOOK very much ALIKE BUT aren’t related.

Up NORTH there are few lizards but MANY salamanders.

In the SOUTHWEST, just the OPPOSITE is true.

Psg: 34-WOLF

The wolf IS a MEMBER of the DOG family.

A wolf LOOKS like a SKINNY wild DOG.

It has a WIDE HEAD and pointed NOSE.

Wolves LIVE in North AMERICA, Europe, and Asia.

Wolves USED to LIVE all over the United STATES.

GRAY wolves are SELDOM SEEN nowadays.

THEY live in the Rockies and NORTHERN states.

Wolves HUNT in packs and MATE for LIFE.

The average wolf pack consists of TEN wolves.

A female wolf gives BIRTH every other YEAR.
Test Passage Pair 18 (Orange/Oyster)

Psg: 35-ORANGE

The orange is the most important CITRUS FRUIT.
It is a GOOD source of VITAMIN C.
It CAN BE eaten OR made INTO juice.
Eating oranges MAY PREVENT the common COLD.
There are TWO different kinds of oranges.
The sweet orange is EATEN in the United States.
It is THOUGHT to have COME FROM CHINA.
The other KIND of orange is MORE bitter.
It IS used often in COOKING.
The TANGERINE is often INCORRECTLY CALLED an ORANGE.

Psg: 36-OYSTER

Oysters are animals that live in SEA shells.
The oyster lives in many PARTS of the WORLD.
It LIVES MOSTLY in quiet, shallow WATERS.
It IS MAN’S most VALUABLE SEAFOOD.
The oyster’s SHELL forms a SHELTER.
The SHELL is divided into two halves.
They are FASTENED TOGETHER at ONE END.
The left HALF is larger and THICKER.
A MUSCLE ATTACHES the soft BODY to the SHELL.
This muscle HELPS the OYSTER open the shell.
Test Passage Pair 19 (Dice/Eagle)

Psg: 37-DICE

**DICE** are cubes **USED** in games of chance.

They may be **MADE** of ivory, wood, **OR PLASTIC**.

A **SINGLE** such **CUBE** is **CALLED** a die.

Each **SIDE** of a **DIE** has **ONE** to six dots.

**DOTS** on **OPPOSITE SIDES** add up to **SEVEN**.

Players **TOSS** the dice on a flat **SURFACE**.

The **NUMBERS** that come up **DECIDE** the game.

The **COMBINATION** of numbers **DEPENDS** on chance.

A **GAME** of dice is **THEREFORE** a gamble.

Gambling is not legal in **MOST STATES**.

---

Psg: 38-EAGLE

The eagle is a large bird of **PREY**.

It has powerful **WINGS** and **SHARP** eyes.

The **EAGLE** is a **SYMBOL** of courage and freedom.

The **BALD** eagle is America's **NATIONAL BIRD**.

**THERE** are **SEVERAL** different kinds of eagles.

Each **TYPE** is **very DIFFERENT** in **SIZE** and color.

Eagles **HAVE** strong beaks and **POWERFUL CLAWS**.

The eagle's **BEAK** is as long as its **HEAD**.

The beak's upper **HALF** hooks over the **LOWER**.

The eagle **USES** its **POWERFUL** beak to **CATCH** its **PREY**.
Test Passage Pair 20 (Ear/Liver)

Psg: 39-EAR

The ear is an important **SENSE ORGAN**.
The ear **HAS** two main **PURPOSES**.
It lets **MAN HEAR** and **MAINTAIN** his balance.
**GOOD** hearing permits **PEOPLE** to understand **SPEECH**.
Through speech, we **EXCHANGE** ideas and **OPINIONS**.
**HEARING ALSO** makes man **AWARE** of **DANGER**.
The ear’s **BALANCE** mechanism helps us walk **UPRIGHT**.
**DAMAGE** to this section causes **STAGGERING**.
The **PERSON** also **GETS** disoriented and **DIZZY**.
This kind of dizziness is **CALLED VERTIGO**.

Psg: 40-LIVER

The liver is a very important **INTERNAL** organ.
Its **MAIN FUNCTION** is to filter the **BLOOD**.
The liver is the **LARGEST** organ in **MAN**.
It can **WEIGH** three to four **POUNDS**.
The liver is **DARK RED** or **CHOCOLATE** colored.
It is **LOCATED** in the **MIDDLE SECTION** of the **BODY**.
It **FITS** closely to the intestines and kidneys.
It is **POSSIBLE** to **TRANSPLANT** a liver.
This **ADVANCED** operation is **VERY** expensive.
**HOWEVER**, it is **RESPONSIBLE** for **SAVING MANY LIVES**.
Test Passage Pair 21 (Leopard/Eye)

Psg: 41-LEOPARD

The leopard is a MEMBER of the CAT family.
It is the THIRD largest cat in the WORLD.
ONLY the LION and tiger are LARGER.
Leopards live in the JUNGLES of Africa.
They are EXCELLENT night time HUNTERS.
LEOPARDS STAND ALMOST two feet high at the SHOULDERS.
A big MALE MAY MEASURE nine FEET LONG.
It CAN WEIGH one hundred and sixty pounds.
A large FEMALE will weigh ONLY seventy pounds.
LEOPARDS have only a few CUBS in a litter.

Psg: 42-EYE

The eye is a most IMPORTANT SENSE organ.
We USE it to VIEW the WORLD.
ALMOST EVERY ACTIVITY INVOLVES the eyes.
EYES are OUR windows to the WORLD.
The LENS of the eye collects LIGHT.
The LIGHT is FOCUSED INSIDE the eye.
This information is sent to the BRAIN.
The brain then begins to PROCESS the IMAGE.
Eyes help us to enjoy BOOKS and PAINTINGS.
We SEE beauty in MOUNTAINS and SUNSETS.
**Test Passage Pair 22 (Zipper/Egg)**

**Psg: 43-ZIPPER**

A zipper is any kind of **SLIDE FASTENER**.

**ALL** zippers **HAVE** two rows of **TEETH**.

The two **EDGES** of the zipper fasten **TOGETHER**.

The **TEETH HOLD** the zipper **TOGETHER**.

The edges **STAY** fastened **TILL** they are **RELEASED**.

They are released **BY DRAWING** the slide back.

Slide zippers are **OFTEN** used to **FASTEN CLOTHING**.

They **ARE USED** on **LUGGAGE** and briefcases.

The **FIRST** zipper was invented by an **AMERICAN**.

It **WAS** made of connected **HOOKS** and eyes.

---

**Psg: 44-EGG**

Many kinds of animals and **BIRDS PRODUCE** eggs.

The **MAIN PURPOSE** of eggs is to breed **YOUNG**.

Most young **ANIMALS BEGIN** as an **EGG**.

**PEOPLE** usually think of the egg as a **FOOD**.

Actually, **FEW** kinds of eggs are **EATEN**.

Bird's eggs are **LARGER** than **MAMMAL'S**.

Their eggs **CONTAIN FOOD** for the young **BIRD**.

Young birds **DEVELOP OUTSIDE** the mother's **BODY**.

The ostrich **EGG** is the **LARGEST** type.

The **HUMAN EGG** is **ONE** of the smallest.
Test Passage Pair 23 (Clock/Kangaroo)

Psg: 44-CLOCK

Clocks are INSTRUMENTS that can MEASURE time. They DIVIDE days into regular INTERVALS. Originally, TREE SHADOWS were USED to mark time. The SHORTEST shadows OCCUR around midday. LONGER shadows occur in morning and LATE AFTERNOON. The FIRST clock invented was the SUNDIAL. LATER, the water clock was DEVELOPED in CHINA. It could MEASURE time on CLOUDY days. WATER clocks were used for several THOUSAND YEARS. EARLY GREEKS and Romans ALSO used clocks.

Psg: 46-KANGAROO

The kangaroo CARRIES its YOUNG in a POUCH. The pouch is LOCATED outside of the ABDOMEN. ANIMALS with POUCHES are not found in AMERICA. The kangaroo's NATIVE COUNTRY is AUSTRALIA. There are many different kinds of KANGAROOS. The SMALLEST ARE the same size as a RABBIT. The largest ARE NEARLY seven feet tall. Their back LEGS are larger than their FRONT legs. Kangaroo fossils have RECENTLY BEEN FOUND. Prehistoric kangaroos GREW to BE very LARGE.
Test Passage Pair 24 (Camel/Goose)

Psg: 47-CAMEL

The camel is a very UGLY animal.
It is also ONE of the most USEFUL.
It has BEEN man’s SERVANT for MANY CENTURIES.
Camels were ONCE a measure of WEALTH.
In the BIBLE, God gave camels to ABRAHAM.
Camels are called the "SHIP of the desert".
They CAN endure long, HARD desert JOURNEYS.
Camels can TRAVEL many MILES without NEEDING water.
WITHOUT the camel, man COULDN'T TRAVEL the DESERTs.
Camel CARAVANS are STILL seen in the SAHARA.

Psg: 48-GOOSE

The goose is a WEB FOOTED BIRD.
It IS CLOSELY RELATED TO the DUCK.
A goose is larger than a DUCK.
Its NECK is slightly LONGER than a duck’s.
There are forty different varieties of GEESE.
Seventeen kinds of wild GEESE live in AMERICA.
GEESE ARE KNOWN to MOVE WITH the seasons.
They FLY NORTH in summer and south in WINTER.
Some fly as far north as the ARCTIC.
OTHERS fly as far south as MEXICO.
# TEXT FOR CST PRACTICE PASSAGES

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Practice Passages

Psg: 1-LAKE--Practice Passage

Lakes are **BODIES** of water **SURROUNDED** by **LAND**.
They are **LOCATED** in **EVERY** large **COUNTRY**.
Some lakes are **FOUND** at **EXTREMELY** high altitudes.
Others are many feet **BELOW SEA** level.
**MOUNTAIN** lakes were **FORMED** by glaciers.
The **WORD** lake **MEANS** a large pond or **HOLE**.
The Caspian **SEA** is **REALLY** a lake.
**SOME** other well **KNOWN** seas are also lakes.
Lakes affect the weather for **MANY MILES AROUND**.
**PEOPLE USE** lakes for **RECREATION** and industry.

Psg: 2-KNIFE--Practice Passage

The knife is a very **HELPFUL UTENSIL**.
It was a **TOOL** developed by the **CAVE** man.
He **SHARPENED** pieces of **STONE** to **MAKE** knives.
The knives were **USED** for **SKINNING** and **CUTTING** meat.
The knife **ALSO SERVES** as a **WEAPON**.
**MANY** different knives are used in **INDUSTRY** today.
**DIFFERENT** knives are used for **VARIOUS TASKS**.
The knife has **BEEN** used to **CREATE ARTWORK**.
**ARTISTS** use **KNIVES** to paint pictures.
These knives **CREATE** wide **SPLASHES** of color.
Psg: 3-CROW--Practice Passage

Crows are commonly **SEEN WILD** birds.
They are **KNOWN** for their **UNUSUAL CALL**.
Crows are found all over the world.
**CROWS LIVE** in meadows and **ORCHARDS**.
**THEY** are large **BIRDS** with **BLACK** feathers.
**DURING FLIGHT**, the **FEATHERS** look **GREEN**.
Their powerful beak has a **SHARP POINT**.
The **BEAK** is **SURROUNDED** by **FEATHERS**.
The crow's feet are **ADAPTED** for walking.
**FEMALES** are **SLIGHTLY** smaller than **MALES**.

---

Psg: 4-KITE-Practice Passage

A kite is **FLOWN** at the **END** of a string.
It is made of paper on a **LIGHT FRAME**.
Kites **MAY** be **SHAPED** like **DRAGONS** or birds.
The **KITE** was **INVENTED** two thousand years **AGO**.
**HISTORIANS THINK** the kite was invented in **GREECE**.
The Chinese **CLAIM** that they **INVENTED** the kite.
They **ARGUE** that it was used in **WARS**.
In **CHINA** a day is set **ASIDE** as **KITE'S** day.
Kite's day **FALLS** on the **SEVENTH** of **JULY**.
Thousands of **CHINESE** **FLY** kites on that day.
Psg: 5-GLUE--Practice Passage

Glue is a sticky material made from **ANIMALS**. It comes from their **SKIN**, bones, and **TISSUES**. The **THREE TYPES** of glue are forms of **GELATIN**. They are **BONE**, **FISH**, and hide glue.

Glue **IS USED** to join different **MATERIALS TOGETHER**. These materials include **WOOD**, paper, and **CLOTH**.

Bone glue is **MADE** by a **STEAM** process. **FIRST**, grease is removed **FROM** the **BONES**. A **SOLUTION** is used to **DISSOLVE** the **GREASE**. The **CLEAN** bones are **BOILED** to **FORM** glue.

Psg: 6-DOOR--Practice Passage

**PEOPLE ENTER ROOMS** through doors. A **DOOR** is also **USED** to **COVER** an entrance.

A door may be **HUNG** on **HINGES**. It **MAY SLIDE** back and forth in a groove. There **ARE DOORS** that are **DIVIDED** into two parts. The **COMMON** name for this is a "dutch door".

The **UPPER** half **OPENS** while the lower **STAYS** closed. **THESE** are **POPULAR** doors in **EUROPEAN** homes. The **DESIGN** provides **SECURITY** for the homeowner. It lets him **SEE** out, without **LETTING ANYONE** in.
Psg: 7-GRAPe--PracticE Passage

The GRAPE is a fruit that GROWS on a vine.
PEOPLE have grown grapes throughout HISTORY.
They are MENTIONED in ANCIENT myths.
GRAPES are FOUND all over the WORLD.
They are EATEN, and made INTO WINE.
They are also MADE into grape JUICE.
DRIED grapes are called RAISINS.
Grape VINES are grown TO provide shade.
THREE THOUSAND KINDS of grapes EXIST.
ONE THOUSAND of THEM started in America.

Psg: 8-LIME-PracticE Passage

Limes are CLOSELY related to the lemon.
They TASTE more SOUR THAN the lemon.
Lime SKIN is THICKER than the LEMON'S.
Limes GROW on SMALL CITRUS trees.
These trees GROW in MORE tropical AREAS.
The MAJORITY of limes are PRODUCED in Florida.
Lime trees GROW to be TEN feet TALL.
Limes are PRINCIPALLY used for making JUICE.
Lime juice is used to FLAVOR MANY DRINKS.
It is also used as a COOKING SPICE.
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Learning Passages

Psg: 1-WATCH--Learning Passage

Watches help us get to places on time.

A WATCH is REALLY a PORTABLE CLOCK.

A CENTURY ago watches were VERY EXPENSIVE.

Now, a RELIABLE WATCH CAN be BOUGHT CHEAPLY.

Watches are NOW INEXPENSIVE ENOUGH for CHILDREN.

Watches CARRIED by railroad ENGINEERS are very ACCURATE.

They make sure that trains run on time.

The EARLY watches were LARGE and HEAVY.

The first watch was INVENTED in the sixteenth CENTURY.

It was invented by a German LOCKSMITH.

Psg: 2-NOSE-Learning Passage

The nose is USED FOR BREATHING and SMELLING.

The nose and LUNGS have the SAME main FUNCTION.

AIR enters THROUGH TWO OPENINGS in the NOSE.

These are separated by a thin BONY WALL.

The air continues FROM the nose into the throat.

It THEN carries OXYGEN down to the LUNGS.

The nose also ALLOWS the detection of ODORS.

The sense of smell is CRITICAL to ANIMALS.

They USE it to identify THEIR ENEMIES.
Psg: 3-LEAVES--Learning Passage

Leaves are admired for their **BEAUTIFUL SHAPES**.
Their colors are brilliant in the **FALL**.
The **LEAF'S GREATEST** gift to mankind is **FOOD**.
Green **LEAVES** are **IMPORTANT** food **PRODUCERS**.
**PEOPLE WOULD STARVE** without leaves.
Their **FOOD** is **MANUFACTURED CONSTANTLY**.
An **INVISIBLE** process **GOES** on **INSIDE** every leaf.
Leaves **TRAP ENERGY** from **LIGHT** entering the plant.
The foods **PRODUCED** are **CALLED CARBOHYDRATES**.
**CARBOHYDRATES** are passed on to plant-eating animals.

Psg: 4-COTTON-Learning Passage

Cotton is the most important **SOURCE** of clothing.
Three out of four **PEOPLE** wear cotton clothing.
**COTTON** does **HAVE** many **USES BESIDES** clothing.
It is a chief source of many **CHEMICALS**.
It is **ALSO** used in **BUILDING** materials.
The cottonseed is rich in **OIL** and **MINERALS**.
It **ALSO** gives **FOOD** for **MEN** and **ANIMALS**.
**MILLIONS** of people **DEPEND** on money from **COTTON**.
**FARMER'S INCOMES DEPEND** on the **PRICE** of **COTTON**.
Cotton production can be important to economic **GROWTH**.
Psg: 5-DUCK--Learning Passage

Ducks are WEB FOOTED BIRDS.
They live ALONG lakes, streams, and RIVERS.
Seventy different KINDS of ducks LIVE in America.
Geese and SWANS are RELATED to DUCKS.
There ARE wild ducks and DOMESTIC ducks.
Wild ducks are prized by hunters.
When COOKED CORRECTLY, they ARE DELICIOUS to EAT.
Ducks HAVE large heads, and slender NECKS.
Their FLAT bills have tiny TEETH.
The BILLS ARE used to CATCH FOOD.

Psg: 6-WATER-Learning Passage

Water is EXTREMELY important in our LIVES.
Only AIR is MORE IMPORTANT than water.
Our BODIES are PRIMARILY MADE up of water.
WITHOUT water, people and ANIMALS would DIE.
Water IS NOT always easy to get.
Early PIONEERS had to SEARCH for water.
HOMESTEADS could not be BUILT without a WELL.
BATTLES have been FOUGHT for the possession of water.
LACK of water can CAUSE widespread SUFFERING.
Without water for CROPS, people may STARVE.
Psg: 7-ONION--Learning Passage
Onions **BELONG** to the **LILY** family.
They have a **STRONG TASTE** and **DISTINCT** odor.
The **ODOR** is due to a **POWERFUL** oil.
**DURING** peeling, the oil **FORMS** a vapor.
The vapor affects **SENSITIVE NERVES** in the **EYES**.
That is **WHY** people **CHOPPING** onions **CRY**.
Onions **FIRST** grew in **CHINA**.
**THEY** were **RAISED** in America by the pioneers.
Onions are **MOSTLY GROWN** in **CALIFORNIA** and Texas.
They are **ALSO** grown in **COLORADO** and New **YORK**.

Psg: 8-OAK-Learning Passage
The oak is a symbol of great **STRENGTH**.
There are **TWO** hundred **DIFFERENT** kinds of oaks.
Oaks grow in **MANY DIFFERENT LANDS**.
In Asia they grow **WESTWARD** from China.
They **GROW** in **EUROPE** from Sicily to **SWEDEN**.
They **ARE EXTREMELY** common in **NORTH AMERICA**.
The **ACORN SETS** the oak apart from other **TREES**.
The acorn **IS** the fruit of the **OAK TREE**.
It is surrounded by a **HARD SHELL**.
**SQUIRRELS COLLECT** acorns for their winter food **SUPPLY**.
Psg: 9-DIAMOND-Learning Passage

A DIAMOND is the HARDEST substance KNOWN.

It is also ONE of the most VALUABLE.

It is the most WANTED of all PRECIOUS stones.

The DIAMOND is the JEWEL for engagement rings.

It is the MOST LASTING of all GEM stones.

Diamonds are ALSO used for CUTTING and GRINDING.

Diamonds are MADE of ALMOST PURE CARBON.

MOST diamonds have EIGHT sides.

OTHERS are SHAPED like a cube.

Some diamonds EVEN have TWELVE sides.

Psg: 10-LEG-Learning Passage

The legs are LONG LIMBS of the body.

They EXTEND DOWNWARD from the TRUNK to the FEET.

Legs are USED for BODY support and MOVEMENT.

Each leg CONSISTS of three LONG BONES.

 THESE bones are surrounded by MUSCLE and TISSUE.

One leg SECTION is CALLED the THIGH.

The thighbone is the LONGEST BONE in the body.

The calf SECTION is BETWEEN the knee and ANKLE.

It CONTAINS the other TWO bones.
Psg: 11-ELM–Learning Passage

The elm is a BEAUTIFUL, large SHADE tree.

ELM trees are COMMON in EUROPE and NORTH America. THEY have BEEN KNOWN to flourish in AUSTRALIA.

SOME elms are SHAPED like a TALL vase.

OTHERS take the FORM of an UMBRELLA.

Elm trees can BECOME ONE hundred feet TALL. SOME elm TREES live for TWO hundred YEARS.

The elm’s small FLOWERS appear in the SPRING.

Psg: 12-GORILLA–Learning Passage

The gorilla is the LARGEST of the PRIMATES.

It is the ape THAT most resembles MAN.

It is ALSO the rarest of the APES.

The gorilla lives in the FORESTS of AFRICA.

A gorilla is USUALLY LARGER than a man.

It is NEARLY six FEET tall standing UPRIGHT.

It COULD EASILY tear a man APART.

The gorilla is COVERED with coarse BROWN HAIR.

The gorilla's hair BECOMES GRAY with age.

Gorillas SPEND MOST days HUNTING for FOOD.
Psg: 13-DANDELION-Learning Passage

The dandelion is a yellow WILD FLOWER.
It grows EVERYWHERE in the SPRING.
Dandelions GROWING on LAWNS are CONSIDERED weeds.
The dandelion GROWS ALL over the WORLD.
THEY were BROUGHT to AMERICA by the early SETTLERS.
The name dandelion MEANS "lion's tooth".
The NAME COMES from the notches on the LEAVES.
The dandelion HAS a GOLDEN YELLOW head.
The HEAD is made of MANY flowers.
The HOLLOW STEM is filled with juice.

Psg: 14-DINOSAUR--Learning Passage

Dinosaurs LIVED millions of years ago.
These primitive creatures RULED THEIR world.
The WORD "DINOSAUR" MEANS "TERRIBLE LIZARD".
The NAME REFERRED to THEIR tremendous SIZE.
MOST dinosaurs were QUITE HARMLESS.
Dinosaurs are divided into TWO main groups.
Some dinosaurs ATE PLANTS, while others ate meat.
These two groups were not CLOSELY RELATED.
However, they were DESCENDED FROM the SAME ANCESTORS.
The dinosaurs DISAPPEARED many years ago.
**Psg: 15-OCEAN--Learning Passage**

**OCEANS** cover the surface of **OUR PLANET**.

Ocean tides are **DETERMINED** by the full moon.

The power of the **OCEAN** is amazing.

It can be beautiful when it is **CALM**.

In **THESE MOMENTS** the ocean is like glass.

However, during a **STORM** it **CAN** be terrifying.

**SOME WAVES** are taller than an average **BUILDING**.

The **OCEAN** is a **LARGE** and **LONELY PLACE**.

You **CAN SAIL** for days **WITHOUT SEEING PEOPLE**.

Lifeboats **HAVE FLOATED** for months **WITHOUT** being found.

---

**Psg: 16-KIDNEY-Learning Passage**

Kidneys are very **IMPORTANT** organs.

The **FUNCTION** of the **KIDNEYS** is to **CLEANSE** the **BLOOD**.

They **ACT** as a **FILTER** to **REMOVE WASTE**.

The **KIDNEYS** are located **IN** the back.

There is one on **EITHER** side of the **BACKBONE**.

They are **JUST BELOW** the eleventh **RIB**.

The kidneys are **ABOUT** four inches **LONG**.

These organs are **SHAPED** like large **BEANS**.

The **HOLLOW** side of the **BEAN** faces **INWARD**.